GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2343
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
WORLD CLASS UNIVERSITIES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to establish new universities aimed to attain world class standards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and location- wise;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to motivate the State Governments to establish above Univer- sities?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): The Central Government had approved setting up of 14 'world class universities' during 11th and 12th five year plans. Subsequently, the concept of 'world class universities' evolved into Universities for Research and Innovation. The Ministry of Human Resource Development had accor- dingly introduced the Universities for Research & Innovation Bill, 2012 in the Parliament. However, with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha, the Bill has since lapsed. Some locations were tenta- tively identified for these universities.

(d): Education being in the Concurrent List, the creation of new universities is the responsibility of both Central and State Governments. The Central Government has established at least one Central University in each state of the country, with the exception of Goa. During the 12th Plan period, the thrust of the Central Government is on the consoli- dation and quality improvement in the higher edu- cation system and expansion would be mainly done by scaling up capacity of the existing institutions.

The Central Government supports universities esta- blished by the State Government through funding from the University Grants Commission. Moreover, recognising the need for central support for stra- tegically funding the State Higher Education system, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has also launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of "Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan" (RUSA). Under the CSS, universities may be created by the States by upgrading autonomous colleges or by clustering of colleges as per RUSA norms.